

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action mailed September 5, 2003 has been carefully considered. After such consideration, independent Claims 1, 17 and 32 have been amended to more particularly define the Applicant's present invention over the references cited by the Examiner. Specifically, the claims have been amended to clarify that the fuel dispensing system includes an emergency stop system having at least one emergency stop actuator and at least one electrical power disconnecter. In addition, Claims 16 and 46 stood objected to, due to a lack of antecedent basis for the term "control signal actuator." These technical errors have been corrected as required by the Examiner.

Claims 1-2, 11 and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787. Claims 17-19, 21-22, 24-25, 32, 42-48, 50-51, 53-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mercer, Patent No. 6,158,618. Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787 in view of Wright et al., Patent No. 2,935,025. Claim 41 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mercer, Patent No. 6,158,618 in view of Meyer et al., Patent No. 5,874,787. Claims 3-10, 20, 23, 26-28, 29-31, 3-40, 49, 52 and 55-60 stand objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Dependent Claims 16 and 46 have been amended to correct a lack of antecedent basis. Both claims now require the term "emergency stop" in place of the term "control signal". No new matter was added by these amendments. Therefore, together with the following amendments, it is now believed that dependent Claims 16 and 46 are in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 3, which has been deemed allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base Claim 1. As a result, amended independent Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 4-16 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 26, which has been deemed allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent

form including all the limitations of base Claim 17. As a result, amended independent Claim 17 and its dependent Claims 18-25 and 27-31 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 32 has been amended to include the limitations of canceled Claim 33, which the Examiner has deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base Claim 32. As a result, amended independent Claim 32 and its dependent Claims 34-60 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Applicant submits that by this Amendment, he has placed the case in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains unresolved, Applicant's attorney would welcome the opportunity for a telephone interview to expedite allowance and issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward W. Rilee  
Reg. No. 31,869  
MacCord Mason PLLC  
Post Office Box 2974  
Greensboro, NC 27402  
(336) 273-4422

Date: February 5, 2004  
File No.: 1370-021

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES  
POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL, IN AN  
ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA,  
VA 22313-1450, ON FEBRUARY 5, 2004

Donna Cottelli

Name of Depositor



Signature

2-5-04

Date of Signature